

The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXIII,

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1915.

No. 50

Community Christmas Tree.

The Peace Hymn.

(Air "My Country 'Tis of Thee")
 Father, enthroned on high
 Humbly thy children cry
 Send peace on earth,
 May peace, prosperity
 Fill earth from sea to sea;
 May mankind bend the knee
 In fear of thee.
 May earth no more release
 War's songs of crime and curse
 O make war cease!
 Death, take and shrieking shell
 Sound for brave men the knell,
 With the chorus swell—
 "God, send us peace!"
 May mankind's palm of life
 Be peace instead of strife
 Filling all earth!
 Look down from heaven and bless
 Earth with thy righteousness;
 Then reign of happiness
 Shall have its birth!

Have you ever seen a Xmas tree that grows out doors, covered with magic lights glowing under the stars? A fairy tree, sparkling with gold and silver, that has just moved in out of the forest? A tree that belongs to everybody, and every child in town can have a part in? There will be candy and an orange for every child, and there will be music and singing, a big bonfire to keep warm by, and hot coffee to drink.

If the weather is bad on Xmas Eve, a notice will be posted at noon in the Drug Stores, and we will have our Xmas Tree the first fine day. While the Tree will give a gift to each child, yet we expect each child to bring an offering to the Tree. Just as the wise men of the East brought their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Babe of Bethlehem, so we ask you to bring your offerings to the foot of the Tree. Whether it be a potato, turnip, orange, apple, caps, mittens or shoes, all will be distributed Xmas day to the needy, and who shall say, that our Lord will not accept our offerings as unto him self?

There is a gloom over all the world. The news of the thousands slaying each other in Europe seems to put the hope of peace and good-will far away. But let us put away these thoughts at Christmas time, and come and play with the children. Let us make it a day, not of exchanging useless presents with grown-up people, or cooking and eating unusually stuffy meals, but let us have a frolic out-doors with the children.

The first community Christmas tree in this country was in Madison Square, New York, in 1912, and it was called "The Tree of Light". Several years before a group of artists sat at a dinner table in that city. One of them had recently returned from studying in Germany and he was enthusiastic over the community festivals used in that country. The idea of a community Xmas tree in this country originated then and there. The custom has since spread to hundreds of cities, towns and villages until now it bids fair to become a permanent establishment.

The interest shown in the community Christmas Tree in the Gap is gratifying to those who have charge of the celebration.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the children who have so faithfully practiced the hymns and carols, which are to be sung at the community tree on Friday night, many of the choirs and other singers met with the children at the school building and the inspiration all present was great. The ring of voices and choruses of praise was wonderfully sweet and the spark of cheer and good will in the hearts of all. Come to the next rehearsal on Friday night at 8 o'clock, and let us all join our voices in carols which proclaimed the joy at the birth of the Prince of Peace.

G. S. Knight \$5.00
 W. G. Counts 1.00
 John W. Chalkley 5.00
 John Fox, Jr. 1.00
 Frank Parks 19.00
 Everett Drennon 10.00

James W. Fox	10.00
W. D. MacEwen	5.00
Mrs. John W. Fox	5.00
H. E. Fox	5.00
A. J. Wolfe	2.50
W. S. Shank	5.00
W. J. Drake	5.00
J. B. Daugherty	1.00
D. B. Sayers	5.00
G. B. Southward	3.00
John Mullins	1.00
M. K. Kelly	5.00
H. R. Price	5.00
W. S. Rose	5.00
R. L. Parker	1.00
Miss Eugenia Bumgardner	1.00
R. T. Irvine	10.00
J. B. Ayers	2.00
Dr. J. A. Gilmer	1.00
Mayo Cabell	3.00
Contributed	4.00
Miss Jamie Slem	5.00
Mr. Henry Presbyterian Church	1.25
E. J. A. Drennon	5.00
R. H. Akover	5.00
Olis Mosser	10.00
M. B. McKel (Christian Church)	10.00
Ralph Taggart	5.25
Ray Cooper	5.00
H. L. Miller	5.00
C. E. Long	5.00
John Sergeant	10.00
James M. Hodge	2.00
Episcopal Church	12.00
M. E. Church (colored)	1.00
Mrs. Andrew Reader	10.00
Presbyterian Church	15.00
Wade Barber	5.00
R. E. Burgess	5.00
H. E. Rhodes	5.00
Appalachia Mission	1.00
Mrs. W. N. Willis	1.00
Dr. Karl Stoeck	5.00
Baptist Sunday School	10.00
Meadow Baptist Church, by	
W. J. Smith	2.00
Eunice Slem	1.00
Colored School, Appalachia	1.00

Council Proceeding.

The regular meeting of the Town Council was held in the Council Chamber Tuesday, December 7th.

The monthly reports of Mayor and Treasurer were read and accepted and the Finance Committee's report of bills for November approved.

A Resolution was presented and passed, providing that immediately after January 1st, 1916, all consumers of water who are in arrears for water rents for any quarter, including the quarter ending December 31st, will have their water cut off and suit brought to recover rents past due.

The Recorder was instructed to have a supply of post cards printed on which to report to the Light Company each morning the number of lights, and locations of same, failing to burn the night previous.

A permit was granted to J. E. Plummer for the burial of Mrs. Elithia Kaywood, of Appalachia, in Glencoe Cemetery. In the matter of arriving at a settlement with the Carter Campbell Co., for damage to town machinery, it was proposed to submit the question to arbitration and endeavor to get the claim adjusted as soon as possible.

The Ordinance introduced at Council Meeting November 8th, making it unlawful for any person to visit or loiter at or about houses within the corporate limits, where immoral or lewd women reside, unless on professional or lawful business, was passed by a unanimous vote.

The Ordinance introduced at the Council Meeting November 8th, making it unlawful for any proprietor or keeper of a restaurant to keep open his place of business, or transact any business thereat, after 12 o'clock midnight, was passed by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned to meet the first Tuesday in January.

B. C. Ferguson, Recorder.

Southwest Times Changes Ownership.

Pulaski, Va., Dec. 11.—Eugene P. Ham and son, Richard E. L. Ham, of Lakewood, N. J., have purchased a controlling interest in the Southwest Publishing Company and took charge today. The company publishes the daily Southwest Times and conducts a jobbing business, and has one of the best equipped plants in Southwest Virginia. Dr. S. D. Bartle, for the past eighteen months editor and business manager, will return to the ministry. He has accepted a call to the First Presbyterian church at Norton, Va., and will take up the work this month.

Awarded A Medal.

Little Margie White Robertson, of this place, received the following letter Wednesday of last week from the Wamamaker Store, New York City.

Dear Little Friend—
 We are so glad to be able to tell you that the picture you sent in to the Wamamaker Children's Christmas Drawing Competition has received honorable mention.

The medals will be given out on Saturday morning, December 11th, at nine o'clock in the Wamamaker Auditorium. We want you to come and we are sure that your mother and perhaps some of your friends would like to come with you. We shall be very glad to see you all.
 Sincerely yours,
 The Wamamaker Store.

Every year thousands of children all over the United States send in drawings to this competition. The judges of the drawings are supervisors of drawing in the New York City Schools, and it is considered a great honor for a child to win one of the medals. Thirty-two hundred prizes in all were given this year. Miss Margie's drawing, a tree on a hillside stone with crayons in autumnal coloring was one of three hundred to be awarded a bronze medal and honorable mention.

"BEST BUSINESS IN 1916," SAYS SLEMP.

Southwest Virginian Expresses Himself as Approving Steps For Preparedness in the United States.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 10.—"I look for 1916 to be the best business year the United States has ever had in all its history, because this country is practically supplying the need of the whole world. Business in Virginia is good, especially in Southwest Virginia where the coal business is experiencing phenomenal prosperity."

This was the reply made by Congressman A. Bascom Slem, Republican, of the Ninth Virginia district, when asked upon his arrival here regarding the business outlook in his district and in the country at large.

Mr. Slem was free in replying to questions, saying he would answer any query put before him on any subject. He declared himself in favor of preparedness, especially in regard to the navy, which, he thinks, should be greatly strengthened to protect our rapidly developing foreign commerce.

The Ninth district congressman expressed his belief that the Republicans can elect a president next year if they nominate the right man, and in replying to the question: "How about Roosevelt: are the Republicans going to join his Progressive party?" said: "I'd rather have him in the white house right now than Wilson."

"I intend voting for a navy sufficiently strong to protect not only our shores from attack but to protect our commerce on the high seas," continued Mr. Slem. "I believe the European war has opened up business for us that we have never dreamed of having, and to protect it our navy must be strong on both the Atlantic and Pacific sides."

Has the wave of prosperity that appears country-wide reached Virginia and Southwest Virginia so as to help others besides the mining industry? he was asked.

"Yes, sir," he replied, "while the coal industry is having a great big boom the farmers are prosperous and every line of business seems to be doing well with prospects of even greater improvement."

"Nineteen-sixteen will be a great business year in the United States because we can produce. In my judgment there will not be a mechanic laboring man or anyone else who will not have work to do at good wages. I believe this condition will last as long as the war lasts. I then look for a period of readjustment which must come with the return of peace conditions."

Mr. D.B. Wentz

Elected Member of the Board of Directors of the Franklin National Bank.

There are few cities in the United States which can boast of wider prestige in the standing, strength and stability of their various banking and financial institutions than Philadelphia, and this gratifying condition of affairs has mainly been brought about through the great care and good judgment displayed in the selection of the members of the official and governing boards, as well as the consistent effort on the part of the stockholders to place in official and directorate positions men of the highest personal character and standing, thoroughly qualified and exemplified by wide practical business training and experience.

These thoughts seem to have been in the minds of the stockholders of the Franklin National Bank, one of Philadelphia's most representative financial institutions, at their recent meeting, on which occasion they conferred upon Mr. Daniel B. Wentz the honor of an election as a member of the Board of Directors. This action was taken to fill a vacancy existing on the board, and the announcement of the election of Mr. Wentz as a member of the bank's directorate has been widely and favorably received and commented upon in local business and financial circles.

Mr. Wentz is one of the city's eminently useful and progressive business men, and is probably best known as president of Wentz Company, Inc., land improvers and developers, with offices located at 1727 Land Title Building. He is also president of the Virginia Coal and Iron Company, in the advancement of whose business he has manifested a lively interest. He is a member of the Rittenhouse Club, Union League, Racket Club, Huntingdon Valley Country Club, Radnor Hunt Club and the Rose Tree Hunt Club. Mr. Wentz, who is a man of winning qualities of personal character, has always contributed of his best efforts and influence towards the advancement of the material welfare of the community at large, and his wide circle of friends and acquaintances are delighted that this energy and ability should have won recognition in his election as a director of the Franklin National Bank.—Philadelphia Journal of Commerce.

St. Louis.

Is Chosen For Democratic Convention In 1916.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The Democratic National Convention of 1916 will be held at St. Louis, beginning Wednesday, June 14, at noon. The Democratic National Committee to-night named the convention city and adopted resolutions calling for the re-nomination and re-election of Woodrow Wilson as "the trusted leader of National Democracy."

Chicago and Dallas contested with St. Louis for the honor, but St. Louis easily led from the start and won on the second ballot, when the trend of the voting was seen Texas moved that the choice of St. Louis be made unanimous. Dallas held second place on the first ballot, but was displaced by Chicago on the second roll call.

Old man winter has made his appearance in this section, and it looks like he might stay for a while.

Henderson Reasor Weds Miss Hattie Slem.

Last Wednesday at twelve-thirty o'clock a beautiful wedding was solemnized when Miss Hattie Slem, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Slem, became the bride of Mr. Henderson Reasor, son of P. M. Reasor, who lives here in the Gap, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Slem, at their home down in the Cove, in the presence of a large number of friends. Rev. J. B. Craft was the officiating minister. After the wedding a delicious dinner was served to all those present, after which the bride and groom came up to the home of P. M. Reasor, where they spent a few days, then they returned to their new home, which was already furnished near Olinger.

Mrs. P. M. Reasor Entertains.

Mrs. P. M. Reasor entertained Wednesday night at 6 o'clock with a very elaborate dinner in honor of her step-son and bride, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson Reasor, who were married that day at twelve-thirty down in the "Cove."

Those who were invited and present at this delicious dinner were: Mr. and Mrs. H. Reasor, Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Gilmer, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Barron, Mrs. Sally A. Bailey, Rev. J. B. Craft and Mrs. Stasger, of East Stone Gap.

Surprise Wedding.

Sunday night after services at the Baptist Church, W. J. Kelly, Jr., from the L. & N. depot, and Miss Maggie Shiner, from down in the "Cove", surprised their many friends by going to the home of Rev. J. B. Craft, where they were quietly married, Rev. Ingram, of Richmond, who was the guest of Rev. Craft, being the only witness.

NOTICE TO WATER CONSUMERS.

At the last regular meeting of the Town Council a resolution was passed authorizing the water to be cut off as early as possible after January 1st, 1916, from all consumers who are in arrears for rents, without further notice, and suit instituted to collect rents past due and unpaid.

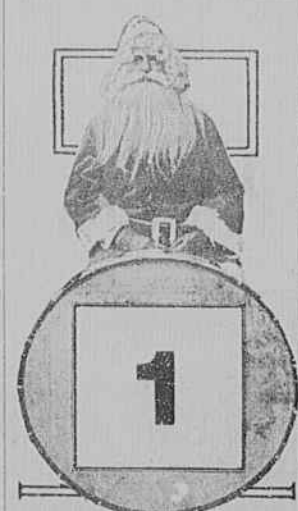
B. C. FERGUSON, Recorder.

FIRE WORKS.

The town ordinance prohibiting the discharge of fire works will be suspended for the period from December 20th to January 1st, inclusive, except as to the streets in the business part of town. Care must be used not to frighten horses.

W. S. ROSE, Mayor.

If you haven't done your Christmas shopping "early" it's about time you were doing it or it will soon be too late.



WEEK TO CHRISTMAS

Last Minute Buying Is Poor Policy. Don't Wait Until Christmas Eve!

N. & W. Norfolk & Western

Schedule in Effect Nov. 22, 1915.
 LEAVE NORTON—6:45 a. m. for Lynchburg and intermediate stations. Pullman sleeper Bluefield to Philadelphia via Hagerstown, and Pullman sleeper Roanoke to Richmond and Norfolk. Also connections at Bluefield with trains Westbound. Pullman sleeper to Cincinnati and Columbus.

LEAVE NORTON—2:30 p. m. for points North, East and West.

LEAVE BRISTOL—Daily, 6:45 a. m. for East Radford, Roanoke, Lynchburg, Petersburg, Richmond and Norfolk. Pullman Parlor Car to Richmond. Pullman sleeper Roanoke to New York via Hagerstown and Harrisburg.

5:00 p. m. for Norfolk and intermediate points. Pullman sleepers to Norfolk 1:35 p. m. and 7:55 p. m. (limited). Solid trains with pullman sleepers to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York via Lynchburg. Does not make local stops.

12:15 p. m. daily for all points between Bristol and Lynchburg. Connects at Walton at 5:40 p. m. with the St. Louis Express for all points west and northwest.

If you are thinking of taking a trip YOU want quotations, cheapest fare, reliable and correct information, as to routes, train schedules, the most comfortable and quickest way. Write and the information is yours for the asking, with one of our complete Map Folders.

W. C. SAUNDERS, G. P. A.
 W. B. BEVELL,
 Pass. Traf. Mgr.,
 Roanoke, Va.

V. & S. W. Railway

In Effect February 15th, 1914.

LEAVES BIG STONE GAP

No. 2 daily 9:05 a. m. for Bristol and intermediate points. Pullman sleeper Louisville to Bristol. Connects with N. & W. for points East and South. R. for points South and West.

No. 3 daily, except Sunday, 11:44 a. m. for St. Charles and intermediate points.

No. 4 daily, except Sunday, 3:17 p. m. for Bristol and intermediate points. Connects with N. & W. for points East. Connects at Moccasin Gap with train No. 8 for Bull's Gap, Rogersville and intermediate points.

For additional information apply to nearest Agent or

W. E. ALLEN,
 General Passenger Agent,
 Bristol, Tenn.

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